



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/606,023	06/29/2000	Yuichi Higuchi	1272C0418	8116
5514	7590	12/13/2004	EXAMINER	
FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO 30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA NEW YORK, NY 10112			BRINICH, STEPHEN M	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2624		

DATE MAILED: 12/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/606,023	HIGUCHT, YUICHI
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Stephen M Brinich	2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-24 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 1-8, 10-19 and 24 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 20-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rijavec.

Re claims 20-21, Rijavec discloses (column 3, lines 36-59; column 5, lines 16-67) a printer calibration system in which a first calibration function is provided by a host device 102 and a second calibration function is generated in the printer (note that the printer calibration is described as "implemented in the printers 110-116 as well", indicating a calibration in addition to the calibration provided by host 102). The first and second calibration functions are stored (the memory referenced at column 3, lines 55-59 and the "printer 112 may include one or more arbitrary transfer functions" calibration functions referenced at column 6, lines 3-5, respectively).

Art Unit: 2624

Re claims 20 & 23, Rijavec does not disclose the selective use of calibration functions, or in particular the selection of calibration functions that are more or less accurate than others. The selection of a more accurate first calibration function (obtained a computer) and a less accurate second calibration function (generated within the printer) in order to allow the more extensive calculations required for greater accuracy to be performed by a device better adapted for intensive computation (a general-purpose computer as opposed to a printer control unit) or to allow the less extensive calculations to be used instead when a user values speed over quality would be an expedient obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Re claim 21, these calibration functions are disclosed (column 5, lines 18-22) as being generated in response to a change in printer condition caused by age, temperature, humidity, etc.

Re claim 22, Rijavec discloses (Abstract lines 15-17; Figure 7) the printing and scanning of reference patches in order to obtain calibration information.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-8, 10-19, & 24 are allowed.

Art Unit: 2624

4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Re claims 1-2, 7, 10-11, 17-19, & 24 (and dependent claims 3-6, 8, & 12-16), the art of record does not teach or suggest the recited arrangement or comparing the values of a calibration function downloaded from a host device and a calibration function generated at a predetermined timing and performing a selective notification or calibration operation based on the result of the comparison.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen M. Brinich at 703-305-4390. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays 7:00-4:30, alternate Fridays off.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Tech Center 2600 Customer Service center at 703-306-0377.

If attempts to contact the examiner and the Customer Service Center are unsuccessful, supervisor David Moore can be contacted at 703-308-7452.

Faxes pertaining to this application should be directed to the Tech Center 2600 official fax number, which is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2624

Hand-carried or courier-delivered correspondence pertaining
to this application should be directed to

US Patent and Trademark Office
220 South 20th Street
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington VA 22202


Stephen M Brinich
Examiner
Art Unit 2624

smb

November 29, 2004